

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device and method for connecting an industrial control unit (1) to an industrial control panel (2). The control panel has several functional units (4, 5, 7, 8), each of which is equipped with a USB controller (4a, 5a, 7a, 8a) and the USB controllers are connected to a USB hub (9) which can be integrated into the control panel. The USB hub is connected to the industrial control unit via a single communication link (1b) such that control signals can be sent to and from the control unit from or to the control panel in a simple, economical manner.